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TAYLOR UNIVERSITY
FORT WAYNE

Summer 2006

Ensuring the Harvest

Chancellor Appointed *Vision 2016* *Hope After Tragedy*

"Leaders ... help ensure the harvest"

When Dr. Eugene Habecker filled the position of Taylor University president one year ago, he took aggressive steps to understand the University's past and current conditions in order to develop Vision 2016, a road map to guide, support and sustain the University in the 21st Century.

Jesus instructed us that, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few." (Mt 9:37) Dr. Habecker notes, "Vision 2016 is not just about Taylor University, it's about the provision of strategically educated and trained shepherd leaders who will help ensure the harvest."

One element of Vision 2016 included an executive leader for Taylor Fort Wayne, a position that had been vacant since the retirement of Dr. Daryl Yost in 2003. A search for the position, involving over 40 candidates, was launched this past spring.

Dr. Habecker shares, "We are very pleased that through the Lord's leading, Dr. Duane Kilty has accepted our invitation to be the Chancellor of our Taylor University Fort Wayne campus." Dr. Kilty began his role as Chancellor on June 15. Reporting to the President, the Chancellor functions as the chief operating officer of Taylor University Fort Wayne (TUFW), accountable for the overall leadership and management.

"I believe Duane brings outstanding preparation and leadership experiences to this task. Under his leadership, and working with the talented people of TUFW and the larger Fort Wayne community, I believe we will see solid progress in pursuit of the TUFW mission," Habecker adds.

In conclusion, he reflects, "I know Duane was perfectly prepared by God for this moment."

Details on Vision 2016 begin on page 10.
Dr. Kilty is featured on page 12.

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TAYLOR UNIVERSITY FORT WAYNE

Ensuring the Harvest

On the Cover:
Dr. Biberstein congratulates Benny Powell, 2006 graduate.

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HOPE

Two human tragedies unfolded the night of April 26; the first when a semitrailer crossed the median on I-69 and struck a Taylor University van, killing four students and a dining services worker; and the second in the frantic minutes after the crash when the identities of Whitney Cerak and Laura VanRyn were inadvertently confused, leading to a five-week odyssey of shock, worship, soaring anticipation and crushed hopes.

The crash was a deep blow to the Taylor community, which was already in the midst of another crisis. On Monday, April 24, senior Melissa Munn had been hospitalized and nearly died from a pulmonary embolism. Following an all-night prayer vigil and three open-heart surgeries, Munn eventually recovered and was able to attend commencement ceremonies.

As the crisis with Munn continued, the university was moving forward with inauguration plans for President Eugene B. Habecker, which included a student scholarship appreciation banquet on the Taylor Fort Wayne campus, scheduled for April 27. The previous evening, a team of dining services workers and students went to Fort Wayne to assist in the set up for the banquet in a Taylor University van. Onboard were Creative Dining Services staff members Monica Felver, Connie Magers, Michelle Miller and Vickie Rhodes, as well as Taylor students Whitney Cerak, Laurel Erb, Brad Larson, Betsy Smith and Laura VanRyn.

Following their work at Taylor Fort Wayne, the group stopped for pizza before turning south for Upland. According to Magers, during an interview with an Indianapolis television station, spirits were high and there was some good-natured ribbing of Larson, the only male in the group.

But shortly after 8:00 p.m., as they neared I-69's interchange with State Road 18, a semitrailer rig drifted from the northbound lanes of I-69, across the grassy median and into the roadway's southbound lanes, smashing into the van and killing five of its occupants. The rest were left with serious injuries.

According to published reports, the scene rescue workers discovered as they arrived was one of absolute mayhem with wrecked vehicles, people and personal effects strewn about. How VanRyn and Cerak, who were both blonde, petite, and shared similar features, were confused for each other is a question that may never be answered. But Cerak, who was believed to have been VanRyn, needed immediate treatment for life-threatening injuries and was flown from the site to a hospital in Fort Wayne where she lay in a comatose state for nearly three weeks.

VanRyn had actually died in the crash along with Erb, Larson, Smith and Felver, but the identity switch would lie dormant for over a month before being discovered.

As word began to spread that night, students, faculty and staff members flocked to the Rediger Chapel/Auditorium on the Upland campus, where an emergency prayer meeting began at 11:00 p.m. and lasted over four hours. A second prayer service was convened at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday. Students, faculty and staff hugged each other, cried and prayed inside and outside the building – some lying prostrate upon the ground.

The accident plunged the Taylor community into a deep state of mourning. Thursday and Friday classes, along with many previously scheduled events, were cancelled. Habecker's inauguration went forward, but was repurposed into a tribute to the accident victims, their families, loved ones and friends, as well as a reaffirmation of Taylor's commitment to Christ. The luncheon for which the workers had prepared, as well as all Thursday classes, were cancelled at Taylor Fort Wayne as the entire University community grieved.

Many from beyond the University family reached out to the Taylor community during its time of need. Indiana Wesleyan University furnished busses and fuel so students could attend out-of-state funerals; Anderson University hosted a May 7 memorial service reception, sending catering staff and food; the Indiana University School of Music, which lost four students in a plane crash just five days before, sent flowers. Thousands of well wishers also posted notes on the Taylor website, sent cards, banners and e-mail messages expressing their sorrow and prayer support.

During the May 7 memorial, friends and family eulogized the five to a packed Rediger Chapel-Auditorium. "How do I even begin to describe to you just how wonderful she was?" said Elizabeth Franz of her friend, Laurel Erb. "She was committed to her faith and expressed that commitment in so many ways. She loved her family, loved her friends, treasured the present and dreamed about the future. She lit up a room with her beautiful smile and enthusiasm for life."

Franz related Erb's innate ability to see beauty in everything from a sunrise to an ice cube. "Laurel lived a life that exemplified the true meaning of being a Christian," she said.

At first, Monica Felver was drawn to her work at Taylor, Upland, because of the flexibility of schedule that allowed her to spend time on her yard work and with her beloved animals. "When it came to doing events, the kids (who) worked on her line knew that Nostalgia Night was the best. If you worked on her line you had to like 50s and 60s music, because that is all she ever played … she loved Elvis," said Connie Magers, her co-worker and friend.

"Monica fell in love with the students here at Taylor," she added, relating how deeply moved Felver was when students presented her with several hundred dollars they had collected in response to an illness that hospitalized her husband. "I know she loved all of you."

Jordan Hawkins was a lifelong friend of Brad Larson and recounted his memories of a young man with a humble and genuine heart. "You could describe Brad as being a man above reproach. He never put himself in compromising situations; and if there was ever any question as to the way in which he behaved, Brad was always the first person to own up to his mistakes."

"Brad was uncompromising in his priorities, convictions, and most importantly, his relationship with Christ," Hawkins relayed. "I cannot tell you how many times I walked in on Brad doing his devotionals. He was never showy about his quiet time in the word; it was simply something he just did."

For Heidi Smith, a personal mission statement discovered in the Bible of her sister Betsy painted a portrait of a young woman whose sole purpose in life was to love God through people. "People are my passion," said Smith as she read from her sister's statement. "God must be my first passion. When I am a failure and weak, it allows God to get bigger … my life must be a sacrifice and a drink offering poured out to God."

"As I look at her life, it causes me to evaluate my own," Smith said. "It is absolutely important for all of us to find our mission from God and begin to live it … All of you here at Taylor held a special place in her heart and I praise God for the four years she was able to spend here, because I know God taught her so much through all of you."

Whitney Cerak's sister Carly praised her ability to light up a room and make new friends, but it was the growth that she had seen in Whitney's personal life that had touched her most deeply. "I watched my sister fall in love with God this year - He was her own. I couldn't have asked for a greater blessing," she said. "God is still a good God and His promises are true. I will see Whit again; and these are not just things I say to get by, or to help me cope with my pain. I know the living God; and I will worship Him next to my sister again some day."

While a tremendous amount of media interest was focused upon the Taylor community following the accident and its aftermath, it paled in comparison to the worldwide sensation the story became when the mistaken identities were discovered. Television crews from national media as well as Indianapolis and Fort Wayne affiliates arrived to broadcast from the Rediger Chapel/Auditorium and the story eventually was carried by international media.

That phase of the story actually started shortly before year-ending commencement activities when, after visiting Cerak (the person she believed was Laura) in the hospital, VanRyn's roommate approached Taylor administrators with questions about the identification process that determined VanRyn had lived and Cerak had died. That day, the University began a quiet fact-finding effort involving state and local authorities, which was ongoing when the misidentification was revealed.

The next day VanRyn's family moved Cerak to a rehab center in Grand Rapids and a web log (blog) set up by the family continued to post progress updates. By May 29, Cerak's progress was gathering momentum; but as she began to speak and interact more and more with the VanRyns, they started having their own questions about her identity and initiated the investigation that determined her true identity.

"We have some hard news to share with you today," wrote Lisa VanRyn on May 31. "Our hearts are aching as we have learned that the young woman we have been taking care of over the past five weeks has not been our dear Laura, but instead a fellow Taylor student of hers, Whitney Cerak … it is uncanny the resemblance that these two women share. Their body types are similar, their hair color and texture, their facial features, etc."

"It is a sorrow and a joy for us to learn of this turn of events. For us, we will mourn Laura's going home and will greatly miss her compassionate heart and sweetness while knowing that she is safe and with her King forever. We rejoice with the Ceraks, that they will have more time on this earth with their daughter, sister, and loved one … We also want to thank you for your prayers for our family as well as the other families during these past few weeks. Your love and support have been amazing," VanRyn added before saluting her sister with a beloved family nickname. "We love you Sweets."

-Jim Garringer

UP AND BEYOND 2006

Eugene B. Habecker was inaugurated as Taylor University's 30th president amidst music, delegates, faculty, staff and students in a packed Odle Arena and a cluster of five candles.

"Taylor did not apologize for its biblical anchor points on being fully Christ-centered in the past, and we will fully embrace these going forward into the future," he said. "These will not change."

The candles represented the four students and a dining services worker killed in an accident on I-69 just 38 hours earlier. Carnations were handed to each of the representatives who entered the gymnasium and the reworked program included special prayers for the families and friends of the accident's victims. The purple Taylor banners, which have been displayed at commencement, homecoming and other festive occasions, were draped with black ribbon and the room was ringed with television cameras and media who had come to cover yet another facet of the Taylor community's response to the tragedy.

Calling the accident a "horrific human tragedy that cut deep into the foundation and fabric of Taylor University," Habecker spoke, sometimes haltingly, about the reality of God's love and providence in a fallen world. "If this were a normal day this would be a very long chapel. But this is anything but a normal day; and for us to pretend it to be normal would be foolhardy," he said. "Look around at the eyes of our students. You want to be able to say I talked with them and I hugged them. I looked into their eyes. Marylou and I have enormous respect for our students."

"As we go to various events and you see one of our students, give them a hug," Habecker exhorted the assembly. "As you see a faculty member who faces the prospect of an empty chair, or see a coach who has a vacant jersey, give them a hug. I thank God that even in this difficult moment he has sent all of you to our midst these days."

The theme of inauguration was *Up and Beyond*; Habecker's address was to have been the grand unveiling of Vision 2016, an ambitious movement of brick, mortar, programs, people and funds that seeks to ensure Taylor University's spot among the world's elite universities of evangelical faith. And while the speech provided a glimpse of things hopefully to come, it was also a moving examination of hope in the midst of pain.

"Our commitments to do higher education at Taylor are fully contexted in the Christian faith; based upon the Bible," Habecker declared during his address. "So it is no long stretch to suggest that just as we honor those who preceded us here at Taylor, and just today as we honor the past in reflecting upon the lives of our students and staff who are no longer with us in this room, it is also right that we honor the faith of our fathers and mothers.

"Taylor did not apologize for its biblical anchor points on being fully Christ-centered in the past, and we will fully embrace these going forward into the future," he said. "These will not change."

The hand of the Almighty was evident as well when a musical piece selected months in advance and performed by the Taylor Chorale offered the lyrics:

Farewell my brothers in the Lord, we all ere long shall meet above.
For we believe His Precious Word: To you I'm bound with chords of love
… We'll march to the Promised Land. We'll land on Canaan's shore,
where pleasures never end, and troubles come no more.

The day's events also included the dedication of a memorial display celebrating *Venture for Victory*, considered by many to be the first sports evangelistic outreach, and the official renaming of the former Odle Gymnasium as Odle Arena. Grandparents Day and President's Weekend activities were also held.

-Jim Garringer

Vision 2016

Students studying in venues from Cairo to the Czech Republic to Malaysia; graduate-level offerings in 10 new fields; sparkling new facilities and a student body numbering 2,400. What could Taylor University look like in the year 2016?

Since his arrival on campus last August, President Eugene B. Habecker has called upon the Taylor community to imagine where Taylor University could be on its 170th birthday in 2016 - and then dream big. Vision 2016 is an ambitious initiative that seeks to ensure Taylor University's spot among the world's elite universities of evangelical faith through the addition of dollars, buildings and programs while relying upon the hand of God for guidance, keeping and success.

"As it says in Psalm 127, 'Unless the Lord builds the house, its builders labor in vain,'" Habecker said. "We have got to go with God on this one. We cannot make our own plans and ask God to bless them. We have to find out where God's heart is and go there."

While the brick and mortar portion of Vision 2016 is a culmination of a master planning process for the Upland campus which began two years ago, campus master planning for Taylor Fort Wayne will begin later this year, the programmatic aspects of the plan draw in part from Taylor University's heritage of evangelical education, missions involvement and graduate-level course offerings. Portions of Vision 2016 are already in place with the upcoming launch of the Cindy L. Spencer Centre for Global Engagement, and Taylor's return to graduate level offerings three years ago.

But it is the brick and mortar along with student body growth that has created a buzz among Taylor faculty, staff and students. Planned Vision 2016-related expansions in Upland include:

- a total student enrollment of 2,400 on the Upland campus
- a new $40 million science facility adjoining a renovated Nussbaum Science Center
- a new 2,800 seat chapel that will allow all faculty and students to attend chapel services
- a new student center
- new football, baseball and track facilities
- new classroom and residences facilities.

Key strategies for the Fort Wayne campus include:

- identify a Chief Operating Officer (completed)
- identify and implement 10 primary areas/programs of study with approximately 100 full time equivalent (FTE) majors in each area
- fully pursue an "e-Taylor" strategy leading to the online offering of appropriate bachelors and selected masters degrees for a planned FTE enrollment of 500 students
-substantially increase revenue from all sources, especially from donors
-pursue viable and meaningful steps to aggressively reduce Taylor, Upland's current subsidy (mission investment) in the TUFW campus in a timely manner.

Upon completion of TUFW's master plan, new facilities will be identified to support program and student growth.

"A speaker at a recent business seminar said, 'If your plans don't frighten you, God must not be in them,'" Habecker remarked. "God must be in every phase of this. We desperately desire to go where the Lord leads us. At this time, by His rich grace, we believe these are the plans He has for us."

As Habecker has continued to relate the Vision to different audiences, the ideas put forth have generated excitement. But it was at a recent event in Indianapolis when a minister asked him, "What is Taylor's bottom line?"

"I was somewhat taken aback by the question, but I was reminded of the words of Jesus from Luke Chapter 10 when He said, 'The harvest is indeed plentiful, but the laborers are few. Pray therefore to the Lord of the harvest, that he may send out laborers into his harvest.' That is Taylor's bottom line. We are working to help ensure the harvest," Habecker said.

As it says in II Chronicles 16:9, "For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show himself strong on the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward him," he added, "It was theologian AW Tozer who said, 'God is looking for those through whom he can do the impossible. What a pity that we settle only for those things we can do ourselves.'"

"I think it's fabulous," said recent Taylor Upland graduate Matt Mancinelli, a veteran of missions outreach. In addition to his work on an AIDS orphanage in Thailand, Mancinelli left Taylor Upland for a year to travel with missionary George Verwer before returning to campus where he later served as student body president.

"Dr. Habecker has such a great balance of understanding the mission of Taylor that we're about whole person education but also living and giving the gospel of Christ," Mancinelli said. "It's like he lives and breathes that mission statement. It's about not keeping Taylor confined to Upland, but advancing our evangelical mission (and) our educational mission. I'm super excited about all of it. I can't wait to see where this place is in 10 years."

Dr. Duane Kilty,
Chancellor

Taylor names chancellor

Taylor University has named Dr. Duane Kilty as Taylor University Fort Wayne Chancellor. Kilty began his Chancellor role June 15.

Kilty was selected by Taylor University administration after a search involving over 40 candidates. He fills the Chancellor position which has been vacant since the retirement of Dr. Daryl Yost in May 2003.

Taylor president, Dr. Eugene Habecker, shares, "We are very pleased that through the Lord's leading, Dr. Duane Kilty has accepted our invitation to be the Chancellor of our Taylor University Fort Wayne (TUFW) campus. I believe Duane brings outstanding preparation and leadership experiences to this task. Under his leadership, and working with the talented people of TUFW and the larger Fort Wayne community, I believe we will see solid progress in pursuit of the TUFW mission."

Kilty is no stranger to the Fort Wayne community. After graduating from IPFW in 1981, he worked five years for Peter Eckrich and Sons in the area of accounting. From 1986 to 1991 he served as Director of Financial Services at Huntington University. Kilty shares, "I love Fort Wayne and look forward to working and living in the community again. Taylor University Fort Wayne is poised to make a significant impact on its neighboring churches, businesses and residents."

From 1991 to 2004 he served as Chief Financial Officer at Asbury Theological Seminary in Wilmore, Kentucky. While at Asbury, he helped to rebuild the physical campus, started a vibrant online program, assisted with the transition from a midsized to a large seminary and was instrumental in opening a second campus in Orlando, Florida. From February 2004 to May 2005 he was the Undersecretary for Administrative & Fiscal Affairs for the Cabinet for Health and Family Services of the Commonwealth of Kentucky. In this position, he was responsible for a $6.5 billion budget, 9,600 employees, administration, human resources and information technology. Since May 2005, Kilty has been a full-time consultant, working with struggling Christian colleges, focusing on financial and strategic planning.

He holds a bachelor of science degree from Indiana University Fort Wayne, an M.B.A. from Ball State University, and a Ph.D. in Business Administration from the University of Kentucky. During his career he has held memberships with various management institutes and has authored several articles including *Managing for Results, The Moderating Role of Institutional Forces on Inertia* and is currently working on an article entitled, *Results: How Leadership Actions Determine Success or Failure.*

Kilty and his wife, Joni, are the parents of three children: Sarah (25), Joel (24) and Seth (19). Seth will be a freshman in the fall at TUFW, majoring in business and intercultural studies with an urban focus.

Below, left to right: Marylou Habecker helps Dr. Habecker get ready for TUFW's commencement ceremonies; Mrs. Vonette Bright challenges the graduating class to live a life of reason in an unreasonable world; Kevin Woods and Isaac McClung anticipate graduation; Jenn Logue and Jennifer Spurlock, senior class president, pose for a photo; and Dr. Quinn White congratulates a 2006 grad on her accomplishment.

Graduates to reach the world for Christ

Sixty-seven Taylor University Fort Wayne seniors graduated on May 19. Featured commencement speaker was Mrs. Vonette Bright, who also received an honorary doctorate of letters degree for her leadership and commitment to awakening the need for prayer on behalf of national and international concerns. Bright, along with her late husband, Dr. William R. Bright, founded Campus Crusade for Christ International in 1951. Vonette was also the featured speaker for a Women's Luncheon, sponsored by TUFW and WBCL Radio Network, May 18.

Vonette challenged the graduates to live a life of reason in an unreasonable world. "Living a life of reason," Vonette explained, "is living a life without excuses or blame. A life of reason cannot be based on feelings or circumstances." She added, "Taylor University has offered you an education based on absolute truth and the only way you can face an unreasonable world is to cling tightly to that truth."

Vonette shared how to address the culture's focus for good, "Coupling the emotional emphasis of today with truth can ignite revival."

Vonette challenged the graduates to reach the world for Christ. Speaking of her husband and herself, she said, "If God can use two people from a small Oklahoma town to touch the world, He can and will use you as you embrace Him and make yourself available to Him...will you answer His call?"

During commencement, senior class president, Jennifer Spurlock, reflected on the journey she and her classmates shared together over the past four years.

Noting the journey's impending completion, she acknowledge the mixed emotions of excitement and trepidation of graduation. Encouraging her classmates that former graduates, current general surgeons, CEOs, administrators, church planters and missionaries "have stood in this spot of uncertainty and they have only been able to do the things and live the lives that they are living one day at a time."

"Time is our most valuable asset," she shared. "So make sure you spend each [day] wisely."

She reflected on the past year's national (Hurricane Katrina) and Taylor tragedies (Schultz Hall fire; tragic accident which claimed lives of four Taylor students and one employee of Taylor, Upland).

Quoting Proverbs 27:1, she said, "'You do not know what a day may bring forth.' We can either live in fear and worry of what tomorrow holds, or... live with courage and faith in what we can do this day."

She challenged 2006 graduates with the words of William Clark, "'Faith dares the soul to go farther than it can see.' We must have this faith to invest our lives in profits that we can not see."

Gerontology Certificate

Taylor University Fort Wayne announces a certificate in gerontology. The certificate provides a foundation for individuals interested in specializing in working with the elderly.

"Working with the elderly is an important outreach mission," Dr. Ron Sloan, associate vice president for academic affairs begins. "The fastest growing age group in the population are those 80 and over. As a result, we are seeing more necessity in having people trained to specialize in serving the needs of this population. "

For people who already have a four year degree, the certificate will provide training and skills specific to the elderly and prepare them for graduate work in the area of social work.

For more information contact Ms. Michele Mallet, social work professor, (260) 744-8782.

Biblical and Cultural Leadership Certificate Program

The Biblical and Cultural Leadership Cerificate Program is designed to train working Christian adults to impact their culture for Christ.

The courses provide practical theological training to enable students to apply the principles in their homes, churches, workplaces and communitities.

The certificate is comprised of 24 credit hours; two courses are offered each semester; the certificate can be completed in two years.

Courses are taught by TUFW professors and are offered at Covenant Christian High School, Indianapolis, IN.

For more information contact Covenant Christian High School at (317) 390-0202.

Music Minor

Taylor Fort Wayne announces a music minor. Designed to correlate with majors in other disciplines such as pastoral ministries, youth ministries, or business, the minor is structured to teach skills to talented and motivated students who desire to serve in the area of music.

The student will be involved with academic course studies in music in addition to service-related music such as chapel worship leading and various campus events where music is an important contribution. The minor has two emphases possible: music ministry and studio recording.

Scholarships Awarded

TUFW awarded 135 students with $275,000 in scholarship awards for their academic excellence, extra curricular leadership and commendable Christian commitment.

Scholarships are awarded from the interest earned on the endowment principal and awarded annually, to be used in the next academic year. Sherri Harter, associate vice president for advancement shares, "Scholarships are vital to our students as they prepare for the future. They go far beyond providing much needed financial assistance...they endorse a student's decision to follow the Lord's leading in their career field or ministry pursuit."

Six new scholarships were awarded for the first time: Birkey Family Endowed Scholarship, DeMars Family Endowed Scholarship, Donna L. Gudakunst Endowed Scholarship, Jerry B. Jenkins Writing Endowed Scholarship, Robert J. and Rhuea Snoke Morell Endowed Scholarship, and Paul and Ruth Steiner Scholarship.

If you are interested in establishing an endowed scholarship or would like additional information on scholarship possibilities, contact Sherri Harter at shharter@taylor.edu or (260) 744-8775.

Ramseyer Hall Completed

Construction of the new men's residence hall was completed at the end of July, ahead of schedule. Stephen Olson, associate vice president of finance and operations shares, "The builders have done a lot of work in a short period of time, and the facility looks incredible."

Dedication ceremonies are slated for Homecoming/Parents' Weekend, Saturday, September 23 at 12 noon.

View the facility at http://fw.taylor.edu/about/webcam.html.

Updates to Hausser Hall

Significant rennovations to Hausser Hall also took place this summer. New RT London furniture replaced the former beds, desks and dressers that were affixed to the rooms' walls.

Rooms were repainted and carpeted. The lounge and lobby were re-carpeted and new furniture was purchased for those areas. A sprinkler system was also installed throughout the building.

The harvest is plentiful: the workers are two

Jeremiah Brown g05 and Cyndi Lee g06, plan to marry next spring. They intend to seek guardianship of Monicea (above, center), with whom they fell in love while ministering in Jamaica. Monicea was abandoned by her parents over a year ago.

As a freshman, Cyndi Lee desired to grow in her faith. "I was right at the end of being a baby Christian and Taylor gave me the next step in my faith," she begins.

Cyndi adds, "I also started to grow educationally as well." She names Professors Heather St. Peters and Suze Fair as integral to her understanding of her major (public relations), as well as showing her how to incorporate her faith with her career. "They helped me realize that I can bring my faith into the work place. They showed me that I can be strong and committed to God, as well as be successful in the work place." She adds, "Suze Fair showed me how to balance a family, career and my faith. That is the balance that I had never seen before."

Cyndi also took advantage of short term mission experiences while at TUFW. She decided to minister to Jamaica since her fiancé, Jeremiah Brown g05, had been there numerous times, and "I wanted to experience it to see why he loves it so much."

Since her first trip to the country, Cyndi has returned twice; Jeremiah has ministered there 11 times. "Our hearts are with the Jamaican people," she shares. They desire to serve as missionaries there in the future "and since we're [not there yet], we make several trips to Jamaica each year to minister to the people."

Cyndi concludes, "Taylor became my home away from home and I have grown so much in my faith that I am ready to share it with other people. I now know what I am talking about when it comes to my faith and I am ready to share it."

Cyndi plans to move to Charleston, SC, to be near her fiancé, who is serving as a youth pastor.

Messages of hope

Leilani Wells g06 in the Advenures in Odyssey Studio.

A 2006 graduate, Leilani Wells has 13 students of her own. Music students that is. She teaches piano, violin and guitar.

Leilani's own participation in music began when she was just four years old. As an effort to bring Leilani out of her shell, her mother, PeggySue, enrolled her daughter in piano lessons. "Music opened a whole new world to me," Leilani reflects.

Music opened a whole new world to her family as well. Over the years, as the WELLSpring Fiddlers, Leilani's siblings have performed for the Gaithers at *Praise Gathering* and various Gaither festivals, and have performed at the Opryland Hotel, as well as festivals throughout Indiana and Ohio. They have recorded two albums in Nashville.

So integral was music in her life that Leilani intended to pursue it as a career. She sought out opportunities to gain practical experience in the field while in high school and served as a production intern at MasterWorks Festival, a "Christian version of Julliard or Interlochen," explains Leilani.

Getting a head start on college, she enrolled at TUFW via the Credits-in-Escrow program during her senior year in high school. Impressed with Leilani's writing, her expository writing professor told her that her assignments were publishable. Leilani found another door opening—into the world of writing.

Ever supportive of her childrens' interests, PeggySue and Leilani attended the *Write-to-Publish* conference after Leilani graduated from high school. There they met Dr. Dennis Hensley, chair of TUFW's professional writing program. Excited and eager to learn more from Dr. Hensley, Leilani decided to enroll at TUFW as a professional writing major. The fact that she did not have to give up her love of music to attend TUFW was also a significant factor.

"there is a great need for . . . uplifting and encouraging messages."

In addition to learning from Dr. Hensley, who has published more than 30 books and over 3000 articles, Leilani studied under authors in the writers-in-residence program such as: Lin Johnson, Jack Cavanaugh, David Pierce, T. Davis Bunn and Bill Myers. It was during Lin Johnson's course, *Writing for Specialty Markets,* that Leilani became interested in screen and scriptwriting.

Leilani received practical writing experience, as well. She took an internship at *Adventures in Odyssey,* where she had two articles for Clubhouse magazine published. A script she pitched for *Adventures in Odyssey* was accepted and recorded in October 2004; it aired in February 2005 and Spring 2006.

Leilani also completed a practicum at Jerry B. Jenkins' *Christian Writers Guild* and had additional educational experiences at the Focus on the Family Institute and Act One, a Christian-based screenwriting school in Hollywood.

Having had reviews, columns, articles, devotionals, screenplays, scripts and vocational biographies published while she was a student, Leilani is well equipped to write in a variety of venues. Her passion, though, is for the silverscreen, a good combination for the fine arts and writing talents.

"The entertainment industry has a huge impact on the culture," Leilani begins. She recognizes that "there is a great need for entertainment that has uplifting and encouraging messages." Her passion is to make an impact, not only on the culture at large, but also encourage the Hollywood community itself, serving as a missionary to the fine arts industry.

"And pray ... too, that God may open a door .... so that [she] may proclaim the mystery of Christ...." Colossians 4:3.

Karen Rowell g06 and daughter, Lauren Rowell g06

They went out, two by two

Lauren Rowell's high school required her to visit a college campus. She chose TUFW because of the small Christian college community and social work program. Lauren was also considering her future as she factored in TUFW's location; "it was located in a moderately large city where plenty of opportunities in the social work field could be found."

During that campus visit, Lauren learned about the Summer Honors Program, during which high school juniors and seniors take classes and live in residence halls at TUFW. She participated in the program the following summer. Lauren's mom, Karen, reflects, "Lauren's positive campus experience and the friendships formed while participating in the [Summer Honors] program solidified her desire to enroll at Taylor Fort Wayne."

Also during that initial campus visit, Lauren and Karen met with Twyla Lee, then department head of the social work department. "Twyla's warmth and clear passion for the social work program were contagious," Karen shares. She adds, "Although Lauren never did get to have Twyla as a professor, her impact on Lauren's school and career choice was a large one."

Throughout the college search process for Lauren, attending college was the "farthest thing" from Karen's plans. Karen had attended Taylor University's Upland campus for two years in the early 1970s but had dropped out after coming to the conclusion that the teaching field, in which she was enrolled, was not her niche. Karen comments, "I really did not ever intend to go back to college."

However, while Lauren was applying to TUFW, Karen discovered Taylor's Center for Lifelong Learning (CLL) and "thoughts of going back to school to earn an online degree began to gradually appear to be possible," she shares. She contacted CLL and discovered some previously earned Taylor credits could be applied to a current associate's degree. When a source of non-traditional student scholarship assistance became available as well, Karen found herself "back in college" at the same time as her youngest daughter, Lauren!

Although Lauren and Karen attended TUFW "together," the means by which they achieved their degrees were very different. Lauren earned her bachelor's degree primarily via the traditional method, classroom instruction. Karen, on the other hand, took all but two of her courses online.

we 'spurred one another on…'

"Being college students at the same time was a terrific experience for both of us," Karen reflects.

Lauren shares, "It was awesome! I loved telling people that my mom was going to graduate with me…and I've been doing that since I was a college freshman, so she HAD to finish her degree in four years."

Karen adds, "More times than we can remember we 'spurred one another on…' to hang in there through tough courses and the pressure of deadlines."

On May 19, 2006, mother and daughter graduated from Taylor Fort Wayne.

Karen concludes, "Lauren and I are both thankful for the opportunities we have had through TUFW and especially for this unique chance to be students together."

Overcoming obstacles

Kevin Woods g06, above far right, traveled to Russia with Athletes in Action in 2005. Above with his teammates, after the team won the 2006 USCAA Division II championship title.

Kevin Woods g06 loves basketball. He grew up playing the sport on a dirt court in Houston, TX, in his grandmother's yard, his friends' homes or at the park. "I was 'outside all day,'" he reflects. Kevin adds, "I didn't intend to play (collegiate) ball ... it was a childhood pasttime."

Kevin is a self-declared optimist with a laid-back personality. He believes nothing can stop your dreams except you, yourself. He should know–he has overcome many obstacles.

Despite the fact that Kevin's father has been in and out of jail all of Kevin's life, Kevin shares, "Parents are kids' heroes." He was raised by both his mother and grandmother, who lived just blocks away from each other. His grandmother passed away when he was 18. In his senior year of high school, his house flooded, causing him to move out and necessitating his getting a full-time job.

Months later, he enrolled at a junior college and tried out for the basketball team. When childhood friend, Isaac Freeman g03, returned to Houston on a TUFW school break, he told Kevin that his college team needed a guard.

Kevin transferred to TUFW as a freshman in 2002, joined the men's basketball team midway through the season, and never quit playing. "I enjoyed my first year," he shares, "but after three years, I was tired of losing." He recalls his thoughts as he began his senior year, "I knew we had the talent to be a good team during conditioning." Despite the potential, the team lost their first game of his senior year by 30 points. The team's spirit wasn't broken. "After we won a couple of games in a row, the team began to understand that if we played *together* we'd beat more teams than if we played as *individuals*." Ever the optimist, Kevin shares, "the games we lost made us better. You can win so much that you feel like you can't lose."

The team won the USCAA national championship; Kevin was "happy for [the team] and happy for Bud," who was also named coach of the year.

Kevin would like to play professional basketball. He has received an offer to play in Russia and has received papers for tryouts, but his immediate plans are to return to Houston to attend the University of Houston and pursue a degree in education. "I love kids," he shares, a passion he discovered while a TUFW student volunteering at the YMCA and working with TUFW's *Leaders in the Sport* program.

Combining his basketball talent with his passion for youth, he would ultimately like to run a basketball camp, where he can have an immediate impact for good on youth.

"Your background has a lot to do with what you're going to do, but you are a greater influence on the outcome of your life," Kevin concludes.

Paul TUUg50 and Ruth Steiner TUUg51 were honored by the Fort Wayne campus with the Distinguished Friend Award

Giving back to ensure the next generation of kingdom laborers

Paul TUUg50 and Ruth Steiner TUUg51 have roots to both campuses of Taylor University. They met while attending Taylor University Upland and all four of their children attended the Upland campus. Paul's father and a number of other family members graduated from Fort Wayne Bible College. Paul served on the Fort Wayne Bible College/Summit Christian College/Taylor University board of trustees from 1976-2000, serving as chairman during 11 of those years. He continues to serve as a trustee emeriti.

They are grateful for the excellent education, friendships and opportunities gathered from both campuses. They established the Paul and Ruth Steiner Scholarship at Taylor Fort Wayne, and the Paul and Ruth Steiner Endowed Scholarship at Taylor, Upland, as a way to help deserving young people receive a Christ-centered education.

Partnering for success

We literally could not have done it without you! Because of the generosity of our alumni and friends, the 2005-06 Fort Wayne Fund goal of $575,000 was achieved. Thank you to all of you who generously and sacrificially gave of your finances and prayers.

The Fort Wayne Fund is vital to TUFW students' financial aid assistance. It helps fill the gap between what is charged for a Taylor education and what it really costs, which makes it possible for many students to attend Taylor University Fort Wayne.

No student ever pays the full cost of their education even if they pay the full tuition charge.

For fiscal year 2005-2006, tuition covered approximately 61% of total educational costs, while the remaining 39% came from gifts and other sources of income for the University.

The Fort Wayne Fund receives gifts not designated to any one building, department or program, these gifts are entrusted to the University to be used in the areas of greatest need, identified at this point in time as financial assistance for students.

Every dollar counts. Please contact Sherri Harter, associate vice president for advancement, at (260) 744-8775 for additional information or visit http://fw.taylor.edu/giving.

TAYLOR UNIVERSITY
FORT WAYNE
Where your calling takes shape

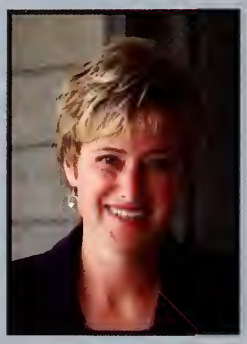
Faculty, Staff and Student Honors and Accomplishments

Char Binkley g65, executive director of the WBCL Radio Network, was awarded a doctor of humane letters degree by Huntington University at its 2006 Commencement Exercises on May 13. Binkley was honored with the degree for her leadership in the community and her commitment to share the love of Christ through broadcasting.

Bud Hamilton, athletic director and men's basketball coach, was named Coach of the Year by the United States Christian Athletic Association. He has served as the TUFW men's basketball coach and athletic director since 1992. Eight teams from across the nation participated in the three-day, single elimination tournament.

This summer Taylor University Press prepared Dennis Hensley's annotated edition of Jack London's autobiographical novel *Martin Eden*. The 485 pages of the original novel are supplemented with more than 150 pages of rare photographs, historical data, literary criticism and textual analysis. The book will be released in September.

Dr. Pamela Jordan g78TUU, professor of English and associate dean, presented a paper *". . . but he is good." George MacDonald's Theology Expressed in Aslan* at the C.S. Lewis and the Inklings Conference at John Brown University in the spring.



Heather St. Peters, assistant professor of communications, was a speaker at Faith Traditions, Spirituality, and Service-Learning conference at Messiah College in June. She is teaching Oral Communication to students from Eastern European nations in July at Lithuania Christian College (LCC). She has taught at LCC during the summer since 2001. She will concurrently teach public speaking to Ph.D. and reserach students at the ISM University of Management and Economics, also in Lithuania.

Dr. W. Quinn White presented a paper focused on activities that promote book discussions at the Indiana State Reading Conference for K-12 teachers this spring.

Students in the Public Relations I: Theory and Practice course worked with Allen County Right to Life to assess their outdoor advertising campaign, which included surveys, data analysis and a presentation to the Board of Directors.

Rediger Named Fort Wayne Fund Director

Mr. James Rediger g01 has been appointed director of the Fort Wayne Fund at Taylor University Fort Wayne, effective August 1, 2006.

In this position, James will develop and coordinate strategic plans for the Fort Wayne Fund, direct mail program, donor stewardship program and Phonathon program. Annually, he will plan and coordinate donor events including Council of 100 Ceremony, Donor Dinner and Employee Appreciation Reception. He will also oversee the student ambassador program.

Rediger has a distinct background in administration, leadership and financial development. Prior to coming to Taylor, he served for two years in the Fort Wayne Chamber of Commerce's small business department. He served for three years in financial development at the Fort Wayne location of the American Red Cross.

He has served his community in various volunteer roles including Young Leaders of Northeast Indiana, Youth for Christ-Campus Life, coaches an Upwards basketball team and has served his local church as high school youth group leader. He has earned an M.A. from Purdue University-Fort Wayne, and a B.A. from Taylor University Fort Wayne.

Faculty and Staff Honors and Accomplishments

Dr. Jay Platte g69

Taylor University appointed Dr. Jay D. Platte Professor Emeritus on the occasion of the May 2006 Board of Trustees meeting for his outstanding professional career, extraordinary commitment and dedication to his musical calling, and the extensive positive impact he has made on the lives of students, employees and programs of Taylor University.

Dr. Jay Platte retired at the end of the academic year, having faithfully served the Fort Wayne campus since 1968.

"Dr. Platte has been tireless in praising God through music at Taylor Fort Wayne. His versatility as performer, director, educator, coordinator and intense lover of music is astounding and can only be attributed to God's blessing on his ministry," said TUFW associate vice president of academic affairs, Dr. Ronald Sloan. "During his 38 year tenure, Dr. Platte has served as chairperson of the Community School of the Arts, director of the music program, chairperson of the professional studies division, and founding chair of the educational policies committee. The Taylor Fort Wayne campus joins me in wishing Dr. Platte many more years of effective service for the Kingdom of God," Sloan shared.

In addition, Dr. Platte authored database programs for Summit Christian College, wrote instructional programs for music courses, developed the Electronic Music Center and computerized the music office. He conducted numerous performances of Handel's *Messiah*, led over 20 tours with the Chorale and also annual tours with the Singing Collegians and Sounds Together (eclectic music ensembles), staged performances of *Amahl and the Night Visitors, Mikado, The Pirates of Penzance*, and numerous others, as well as annual fall, Christmas and spring concerts.

Dr. Platte has served the community through various organizations and associations: Indiana Music Educators Association, president and president-elect (1993-97), including chair of the state conventions in Indianapolis, 1994-95; and Arts United of Greater Fort Wayne, Inc.

Dr. Platte shared, "Shirley and I would like to express our deep appreciation for the many, many notes, cards and expressions of care, reminiscences, prayers and thanks that have been given to us....

"We have always considered our work here throughout these 38 years as an investment in the Lord's work. To Him goes all praise and honor, and the constant prayer that our investment will yield eternal rewards. The words to the hymn "Now Thank We All Our God" ring as true today as they ever have and bear testimony of our hearts.

'O may this bounteous God, Thro' all our life be near us,

'With ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us;

'And keep us in His grace, and guide us when perplexed,

'And free us from all ills, In this world and the next.'" (vs 2)

Faculty and Staff Honored

Six Taylor University Fort Wayne faculty and two staff were recognized for 25 or more years of service during an Honors Chapel in May.

Dr. Wesley Gerig, professor of Bible, has served 49 years.

Professor Arlan Birkey, associate professor of Greek, has served 38 years.

Dr. Jay Platte, director of Community School of the Arts/professor of music, has served 38 years.

Mr. Richard Baxter, associate dean of students/associate professor, has served 36 years.

Mrs. Char Binkley, executive director, WBCL Radio Network, has served 32 years.

Miss Sonja Strahm, director of academic center for enrichment/associate professor, has served 29 years.

Mrs. Marsha Bunker, manager for finance and administration, WBCL Radio Network, has served 27 years.

Mrs. Ruth Elder, technical services librarian/assistant professor, has served 25 years.

Left to right: Marsha Bunker, Char Binkley, Scott Tsuleff

Passing the torch

Leaders don't create followers, they create more leaders. ~Tom Peters, co-author, In Search of Excellence.

Throughout my 30 years with The WBCL Radio Network, 21 of those as executive director, creating new leaders has been one of my goals. Therefore, I felt very confident in the future of this ministry as I stepped down from leadership on June 1.

As I shared with the board at our January meeting, "I don't know how many years I have left in life, but I do know I want to spend them in direct ministry with people. I've loved leading WBCL, but the time has come to acknowledge I've spent enough years on administrative duties."

I'm excited to be able to continue at WBCL as an air personality; and, as I explained to the board, very little will change for listeners. I'll be on the air more days a week and I'll be meeting with more listeners personally than I've been able to do in the past.

My comment to the staff was, "It's been a great ride. Now it's time to simply mount a different horse and continue the race toward the finish line. You can be certain I'll continue the race with the same loyalty and commitment to WBCL you've known over the years. It's with great excitement that I pursue what lies ahead."

Because of the strength of the current staff, the transition in leadership should be a seamless one. The board voted to name Marsha Bunker as executive director and Scott Tsuleff as associate director. Marsha has been at WBCL for 28 years and was formerly our manager for finance and administration. And former manager for programming, Scott has served WBCL for 21 years.

Both have the skill sets necessary to continue to lead The WBCL Radio Network. They're incredible managers and are definitely ready to move into top leadership. I know, beyond a doubt, you'll continue to receive the same high level of enthusiasm, integrity, and commitment under their leadership.

We count on your prayers and God's blessings as we continue to help listeners become daily Christ-followers.

-Char Binkley

Alumni News Notes

Office of Alumni Relations • (260) 744-8790 • alumnifw@taylor.edu • http://fw.taylor.edu/alumni

Throughout the alumni news, you will find alumni giving percentages listed by class year, for the fiscal year 2005-2006. Figures include giving to the annual fund, designated giving, mission trips and WBCL Radio Network.

1928 100%
1932 25%
1935 33.33%
1936 60%
1937 66.67%
1938 66.67%
1939 60%
1940 57.14%
1941 66.67%
1942 28.57%
1943 55.56%
1944 75%

1945 84.62%
Last year, John g45 and Helen Blosser g45 celebrated several 60th anniversaries: class reunion, wedding anniversary, 60 years since sailing to India as missionaries. They serve in their district's JOY (Just Older Youth) group and in the prayer ministry. Their e-mail is jhblosser@peoplepc.com.

1946 64.29%

1947 50%
At 75 years of age, Howard Harris fs47 is an avid biker. At the end of his biking holiday this year, he will have traveled more than 700 miles. Contact him at (251) 968-8978.

1948 77.78%
1949 68%
1950 62.5%

1951 65.22%
Don g51 and Rose (Dix) Nabinger fs50 continue their discipleship training ministry in Palmer, AK. Pray for Rose's heart blockage and Don's cancer immunotherapy treatments. Contact them at 4690 N Wolverine Rd, Palmer, AK 99645.

1952 72%

1953 48%
Dale Lewis g53 is in his 28th year as pastoral care minister at Central Community Church of God, Wichita, KS. He has served in pastoral ministry and has been married to Judy (Moser) fs51 for 55 years. Judy retired after 24 years as pastoral counselor at the same church.

1954 46.15%
1955 62.5%
1956 57.14%
1957 31.25%
1958 30.77%
1959 46.67%

1960 42.86%
Harold Amstutz fs60 works on his church's missions committee, sings in choir and works with seniors at the Breakfast Club. He recently returned from a mission trip to Africa and speaks at missions conferences on flight ministries. E-mail him at haroldelsieamstutz@earthlink.net.

Harold fs60 and Elizabeth Palmer celebrated 50 years of marriage on February 18. Harold is a homebuilder and Elizabeth is a registered nurse. They have four children and nine grandchildren.

James Roussos g60, missionary in Cyprus, is in the USA until August 31. His e-mail is jroussos@20-6.com.

David Stout g60 retired in 2004 after 38 years as United Methodist Church clergy. Since then, he has taken two interim UMC positions and is an adjunct professor at St. Paul Seminary. His wife, Betty (Donaghue) g59 also retired, after 30 years as director of Christian education for the UMC. Their e-mail is dbsspace@earthlink.net.

1961 50%
Howard g61 and Ruth (Ringenberg) Moser g61 serve with World Partners in Spain, along with their son Nathan and family. Their daughter Melanie and family serve in Spain with Christian Missionary Alliance. Their e-mail is moserspain@hotmail.com.

Elaine (Neiman) Wischmeier g61 retired from teaching K-12 music, English and ESL in the Nebraska Christian Schools, and now teaches piano and voice at her home studio. She and her husband served as Portugal church planters from 1974-78. Their e-mail is rewischm@hamilton.net.

1962 48.65%
1963 45%

1964 44.12%
Ruth Anne Wegner g64 and her husband have served in a church planting ministry in Italy since 1978. She teaches ladies' Bible studies and study groups. As a learning specialist, she founded and leads a non-profit organization for learning difficulties as an outreach of the church. Her e-mail is rawegner@alice.it.

1965 38%
Stephen Morley g65 retired from Southwestern College and his wife Kaye retired from The Hartford Company. His e-mail is coachmorley@hotmail.com.

1966 32.61%
Pat (Housden) Gushiken's g66 husband, Hugh, passed away in August 2005. Contact her at 122 Highfield Rd, Marshall, MI 49068.

1967 33.33%
1968 45/28%
1969 39.71%
1970 32%

1971 38.78%
On January 3, after 27 years at Hillside Missionary Church in Clarinda, IA, David g71 and Maybelle (Arnholt) Miller g71 moved to Newton, KS, where David is associate pastor at First Missionary Church. He also serves as administrative assistant to the midwest district superintendent of the Missionary Church. His e-mail is dmiller@fmcnewton.org.

Phonathon 2006

You have generously given and the Lord has blessed. . . $71,491 has been raised for Phonathon 2006!

All proceeds from Phonathon go to the Fort Wayne Fund, which provides students with financial aid assistance bridging the gap between the cost of tuition and the actual cost of a TUFW education.

Each night, callers took prayer requests. While pledges were made, prayers were being lifted up.

You can still make a gift to Phonathon 2006 and help students respond to God's calling. Contact Tami Solak at (260) 744-8790 or alumni@fw.taylor.edu.

Charles Rife g71 is senior adults and caring ministries pastor at First Evangelical Free Church, Rockford, IL. His e-mail is chuckr@firstfreerockford.org.

1972 31.25%
1973 40%

1974 37.25%
Linda (Black) Stone g74 and her husband Harold serve with Wycliffe Translators. Their e-mail is hal_stone@wycliffe.org.

1975 29.23%
Deborah (Gerig) Steinman fs75 is a therapist for Harvest Counseling Group, with a growing private practice in the Fort Wayne area. Her husband, Allen, works with special needs children at Fort Wayne Community Schools. They have a daughter, Sarah (16). Deborah's e-mail is dgsteinman@verizon.net.

1976 33.33%

1977 35.71%
Flossie Epley's g77 husband, Russ, suffered a stroke and is rehabilitating. They would appreciate your prayers. They serve as missionaries in Japan. Contact them via rfepley@gol.com.

1978 24.64%
1979 33.85%
1980 26.09%

1981 45.35%
Jean Baumbach fs81 continues Bible translation in the Niger Republic. She is on home assignment. E-mail her at alheri@harmattan.org.

1982 28.33%
Stan Cushing g82 is pastor of the Plymouth United Methodist Church in Maryland. He and his wife, Regina (Springer) g82 have two sons, David (16) and Todd (9). Their e-mails are srcushing@hotmail.com and rscushing@msn.com.

Greg Rawley fs82 earned his certified nurse operating room credential. He is manager of staff education and program development at the Center for Surgery in Naperville, IL. He and his wife, Faith, with their children Nathan and Elyse live in Warrenville, IL. Greg's e-mail is gregrawley@comcast.net.

1983 18.67%
1984 21.28%

1985 26.32%
Don g85 and Marla (Murray) Bettinger g84 share Christ through teaching English to the Taiwanese. Their e-mail is dbettinger@omsinternational.org.

1986 23.44%

1987 22.22%
Dawn Kale g87 received "Teacher of the Year" Award again at her school in the Houston Independent School District. Her e-mail is dkale@houstonisd.org.

The Very Reverend David Williams, D.D. OCC g87 is the senior pastor of First United Church of Christ, New Knoxville, OH, and is also involved in several other areas of religious service. His e-mail is thevicar@nktelco.net.

1988 14.29%
A soccer injury caused a collapsed lung and internal bleeding in Graham West g88 in January. He is recovering at home after two surgeries and a week in intensive care. His e-mail is gwest@charlotteeagles.com.

1989 27.27%
1990 9.3%
1991 13.16%
1992 27.08%

1993 17.07%
Todd and Tammy (Kelsey) Wilson g93, with sons, Josiah (11) and Nathan (9), announce the birth of Hannah Elizabeth, born September 27, 2005. Their e-mail is therevtodd@yahoo.com.

1994 16.67%
Kari (Parker) Sliger g94 received her post-baccalaureate certificate in accounting from IPFW. She and her husband, Ryan, and daughter, Kierstin (2), reside in Fort Wayne, IN. Their e-mail is rksliger@hotmail.com.

Dan and Lorissa (Hoot) Watson g94 announce the birth of Ava Janae on March 19. Lorissa's e-mail is lwatson@pathwaycommunity.org.

1995 27.27%
Tim g95 and Haydee (Neptune) Everly g95 and their children, Carly (8), Carsen (5), and Christian (2), reside in Stow, OH, where Tim is an appraisal reviewer for Mortgage Information Services, Inc. They attend GateWay Church, where Tim is in music ministry and Haydee is nursery director. Tim's e-mail is tim.everly@mail3.mtginfo.com.

Rosemary Stelz g95 received her master of divinity degree from Dubuque Theological Seminary in 2005. She pastors the First Presbyterian Church, Bastrop, LA. Her e-mail is rosemarystelz@bellsouth.net.

1996 16.98%
Christa (Allaby) Bartlett g96 and husband, Jay, announce the arrival of Nathanael Christopher, born December 26, 2005. Christa's e-mail is christa527@msn.com.

Jason fs96 and Elizabeth (Knee) Kirby fs96, with Ian (3) and Alison (1), welcome James Russell, born February 23, to their family. Their e-mail is kirby4070@netscape.net.

Chad Leichty g96 is a neuroscience specialist at Otsuka America Pharmaceuticals, Inc. He and his wife, Trish, and children Tyler (9), Bradley (7), and Lacy (1), live in Huntley, IL; docbball@comcast.net.

James and Susan (Twedell) Oleson g96 and son, Elijah (2), announce the birth of Caroline Faith, born October 20, 2005. Susan's e-mail is susan_t6@yahoo.com.

Jon g96 and Corrinne (Mahorney) Yeh g96 with son, Jadon (1), welcomed Mya Grace born June 20. They have moved to Boston. Contact them via Corrinne's e-mail: corrinne14@hotmail.com.

1997 19.15%

Patrick g97, Sarah (Burke) DiGangi g98, and daughter, Gwyneth, announce the birth of Daphne Morgan on January 10. Their e-mail is ps.digangi@verizon.net.

Frank and Amy (English) King g97 welcome son, Samuel Edward, born March 1. Amy's e-mail is amyking29@juno.com.

1998 18.57%

Melissa Ayers g98 is assistant branch manager at Flagstar Bank, Indianapolis, IN. Her e-mail is Melissa.1.ayers@flagstar.com.

Jason g98 and Greta (Holmquist) Barthelemy g97, with son, Ryan (3), announce the birth of Karis Jade, born August 7, 2004. Their e-mails are jasonb@cfu.net and gretab@cfu.net.

1999 31.82%

Jeff fs99 and Mary Ann (Burkey) Grate g92, with sons, Ben Thomas (3) and Isaac (2), announce the birth of Lydia Ann, born October 23, 2005. Their e-mail is jmagrate@netzero.net.

2000 25.58%

Steven and Jeannie (Byers) Baker fs00 welcomed Isabella Claire on March 16. Their e-mail is bakestein1@aol.com.

Jason Burnett g00 married Connie Roy on September 12, 2004, with Dr. Thomas Beckner performing the ceremony. Jason completed his master of arts in May 2006. His e-mail is jasinjason@comcast.net.

Timothy fs00 and Sheena May, with son, Nolan, welcome Alanna, born March 12. Their e-mail is mayo3177@yahoo.com.

Jason g00 and Cori (Green) Roton g00 recently returned from a mission trip to Magdeburg, Germany. Contact them at 7621 Clevedon St., St Louis, MO 63123; croton@ladue.k12.mo.us.

Rodney and Heather (VanDeraa) Urbaniak g00, with daughter Olympia (1), announce Legace Reagan, born March 17. Their e-mail is hvanderaa@hotmail.com.

2001 27.87%

Myllisa Jensen g01 works in public relations with Web Trends. Her e-mail is myllisa@hotmail.com.

Chad and Tricia (Chaffin) Rayle g01, with Chloe, welcomed Claire Elizabeth born October 26, 2005. Tricia is LSU program director for Provena Sacred Heart Home. Her e-mail is tricia_rayle@yahoo.com.

Rob g01 and Traci (Zerfas) Slager g01 welcomed Nathanael James, born January 28. Contact them at 940 Illsley Dr., Fort Wayne, IN 46807; slager@verizon.net.

Justin Spurlock g01 will complete a master's degree this fall. Sarah (Vestal) g02 is pursuing a master's degree in marriage and family therapy. E-mail them at jspurlock@gmail.com.

2002 32.31%

Nicole Baksha g02 received her juris doctorate in May of 2005 from Valparaiso University School of Law and has passed the Illinois Bar Examination. She is a commercial/civil litigation attorney. Her e-mail is nbaksha@aol.com.

Anthony Chapman g02 and his wife, Irene, serve as missionaries in Israel. Their e-mail is anthony@resonations.org.

Joseph and Josephine (Koelling) Long g02 welcomed Michael Charles, born June 7. Their e-mail is taylor4bethel@aol.com.

Janelle Phillips g02 is pursuing a master of social work degree at the University of Michigan. Her e-mail is jsmileyface3@yahoo.com.

2003 22.41%

Gregg Cole g03 is youth director at First Presbyterian Church, Oostburg, WI. Contact Gregg and Bridget (Jones) g04 via e-mail at jadepheonix@verizon.net.

Brandon g03 and Nicole (Lemberg) Hall fs04 were married on June 19, 2004. Brandon is a team leader at the Bureau of Motor Vehicles in Fort Wayne and Nicole works for Atz's Restaurant. Their e-mails are daringdingo@gmail.com and brandonandnicole@netzero.net.

Matt g03 and Molly Jones were married on June 11, 2005. Their son, Asa Matthew, was born May 26, 2006. Matt works at Heart Center Medical Group; Molly works at a day care in Leo, IN. Their e-mail is drjones1021@yahoo.com.

Joel and Jill (Kittner) McBain g03 announce the birth of Grace Elizabeth on March 14. Jill's e-mail is jill_mcbain@hotmail.com.

Chad g03 and Janna (Harms) Orlikowski fs04, with Grace and Eli, welcome to their family, Ada Larson, born December 26, 2005. Janna's e-mail is janna@orlinet.com.

Ryan and Abby (Marancik) Treesh g03 were married November 12, 2005 by Rev. Max Wanner g66. Abby is a case manager at the Villages of Indiana. Her e-mail is atreesh@verizon.net.

Biberstein Meets with Alums

Professor Biberstein hosted 125 pastoral ministries alumni at eight regional gatherings. Following the gatherings, a Pastoral Ministry Task Force Focus Group was convened to review and discuss departmental mission, purpose and vision with feedback from current students and alumni.

Look for gatherings (by major) to come soon to a city near you! Call (260) 744-8790 for more information.

Back row (l to r): Eric Dunaway fs00, Tom Christen g86, Troy Green g02, Mark Masterson g76, Ed Weirrick g76. Front row (l to r): Professor David Biberstein g66, Jon Ferguson g02, Eric Hancock g92, Bruce Head g68.

Douglas and Elaine (Iula) Willig fs03 wed on September 23, 2004. Taylor Fort Wayne participants were Randy DeVries fs00 and Jill Grondin g02. Elaine's e-mail is elaine_willig@yahoo.com.

2004 10.13%

Erik Current g04 works at Ball Memorial Hospital. He is pursuing a nursing degree. His e-mail is ecurrent@aol.com.

Caleb g04 and Stacia (Etter) Ellington g02 welcomed Jathen Duke, born November 12, 2005. Caleb serves as youth pastor at Next Level Church, Fort Myers, FL. Their e-mail is caleb@nextlevelchurch.com.

Nathan g04 and Michaela (Dunlop) Hamlin fs04 welcomed Lillian Elsa, born October 10, 2005. Their e-mail is nathan_hamlin@hotmail.com.

Nathan Martin g04 is an officer with the Lowell Police Department. He received a commendation recognizing his professionalism, enthusiasm and persistence in solving two criminal cases. His e-mail is IItimothy4_7@yahoo.com.

Andrea Perry g04 works for Anthony Wayne Services, Fort Wayne, IN. Her e-mail is andie_tufw04@netzero.net.

2005 31.40%

Brice g05 and Melissa Bennett announce the birth of Maci Leigh, born May 9, 2005. Brice is a chaplain's assistant for the U.S. Army and is stationed at Fort Irwin, CA. His e-mail is briceandmelissa@hotmail.com.

Jeremiah Brown g05 serves as youth pastor at Coastal Community Church in Charleston, SC. His e-mail is pastor_j_j@yahoo.com.

Liz Craton g05 serves with New Horizons Youth Ministries as the administrative assistant for the counseling department in Jarabacoa, Dominican Republic. Her e-mail is liz.craton@gmail.com.

Correction: Matt Hart g05 serves in a youth ministry position in Oak Ridge, TN. His e-mail is youth@abrandnewlife.com.

Elizabeth Lehman g05 will serve in Cap-Haitien, Haiti, as an OMS International missionary journalist with Radio 4VEH for two years. Her e-mail is liz_lehman@hotmail.com.

Nicolette Solak g05 is a lead community living caseworker at Arc-Easter Seals. She is pursuing an ESL certificate at TUFW. Her e-mail is nickylette@gmail.com.

2006 74.55%

IN MEMORY

Mildred (Dancer) Gerig g42 passed away January 2. She was a Christian counselor for 30 years and a member of Carroll Road Christian Fellowship Church. A son, daughter, three grandchildren, three great-grandchildren, brother, and several nieces and nephews survive her. Her husband, Alvin, preceded her in death.

Pauline Wanner g46 passed away on May 8. She was a retired registered missionary nurse having served in Sierra Leone. A brother and sister survive her.

John Trusdle g50 passed away February 15. He taught at Pinello School in Colorado for 20 years. He pastored the Hanover Community Church, CO, as well as churches in PA, OH and IN. He is survived by his wife, Betty (Kerlin) fs50, five children, 13 grandchildren, one brother, two sisters, and many nieces and nephews. Contact Betty at 9825 Milne Rd, Colorado Springs, CO 80928.

Roy Tobin g52 passed away April 11. He served in the US Army in WWII. He served as music director in several churches and filled several positions in broadcasting. He and his wife, Muriel, owned and operated adult care facilities in FL. He is survived by his wife, two daughters, a grandson, and a son-in-law.

After a two-year battle with cancer, Gordon Kleiner fs54 passed away March 9. He served in several capacities at Findlay College, pastored several churches part-time, and served the Cairo United Church of Christ. He and Virginia, his wife of 45 years, owned and operated the Children's Corner Pre-School and Child Care Center. He is survived by his wife, one daughter, two sons, four grandchildren and one sister.

Lysle Schmidt g56 passed away January 26. He worked at several hospitals and pastored churches in several denominations. His wife Esther (Imler) fs53, son, daughter, brother, six grandchildren and three great-grandchildren survive him. Contact Esther at 1512 Meadowview Dr, Celina, OH 45822; esthers@bright.net.

Kimberly (Brown) Gonzalez fs84 passed away March 31. She volunteered at the American Diabetes Association and Girl Scouts. Surviving are her husband, William fs85, a son, mother, father, sister and brother. Contact William at PO Box 676, Bountiful, UT 84011.

Holly (Taylor) Shaw g00 passed away February 19. She was a social worker at Englewood Nursing & Rehab Center and a member of Columbia City United Methodist Church, where she served on the praise team. Her husband Vernon, whom she married August 27, 2005, two step sons, her mother and three sisters survive her.

RECOGNITION GIFTS

Taylor University is grateful for the gifts given and specifically designated "in honor of" or "in memory of" loved ones, family members, friends, faculty members, classmates or those who, in some way, have left an indelible impression on the donors.

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50th Year Reunion for Class of 1956
Reunions for Classes Ending in '1 and '6
Ramseyer Hall Dedication
Alumni and Parents Brunch and Alumni Awards
Family Doubles Ping Pong Tourney
The Marketplace Leader's Fellowship
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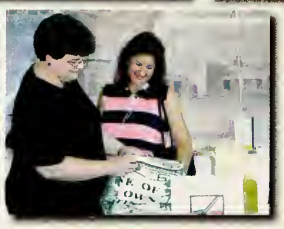
Christian Ventriloquist David Pendleton
High's BBQ Chicken Dinner
"Taylor Students Present..."
Alumni and Varsity Soccer Match



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